

MILWAUKEE COUNTY COMMISSION FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Deb Falk-Palec, Chairperson
Tim Ochnikowski, Director
May 13, 2015

MINUTES

St. John's Properties
1800 N. Prospect Ave
1:00 PM

ITEM I CALL TO ORDER

Chair Falk-Palec called the May meeting of the Commission for Persons with Disabilities to order at 1:05pm.

ITEM II ROLL CALL

Chair Falk-Palec led the self-introductions of those present. Commissioners present for the meeting of the Milwaukee County Commission for Persons with Disabilities were:

Deb Falk-Palec
John Haupt
Tom Jacobs
Denise Koss
Barbara Leigh
Cheri Mc Grath
Meg Steimle
Andrzej Walz-Chojnacki

Absent or Excused:

Luis Arroyo
Supervisor Willie Johnson, Jr.
Susan Pickering
Kathryn Zalewski

Staff:

Mike Bonk
Tim Ochnikowski

Guests:

Tracy Harrington, MTS
Marcia Perkins, TPAC, Advocate

ITEM III APPROVAL OF MINUTES (April)

Commissioner Steimle moved approval of the minutes. Chair Falk-Palec accepted the minutes as approved.

ITEM IV SPECIAL REPORT

ITEM V TRANSIT PLUS REPORT

Ms. Harrington indicated that ADA Boardings in fixed routes is up. New Freedom rides on fixed route is 187,000 between January and April 25. There have been 6,000 GO Passes given out so far. Discussion took place regarding taxpayer savings with the New Freedom riders on fixed route versus on paratransit, eligibility requirements for the GO Pass program, the outreach with the GO Pass, and the paratransit RFP's being evaluated.

ITEM VI COMMITTEE UPDATES

ITEM VII REVIEW OFFICE REPORT (April)

Following no questions or additions to the office report, Mr. Ochnikowski indicated that there's been a request to post information about the commission, committees and members of the commission on the office's website. Two different examples (Milwaukee County Commission on Aging and the City of Wauwatosa's Citizens with Disabilities) of such information were linked to everyone on the agenda. Discussion took place regarding the details of the two examples, the desire to not list contact information of the individual commissioners, and the good idea to do so as to help raise the awareness of the commission. Commissioner Walz-Chojnacki moved to have the office create a commission page listing information about the commission and its purpose, along with a list of commission members' names and the contact information of the office. Seconded by Commissioner McGrath. Following no further discussion, ACTION: the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Mr. Ochnikowski gave a brief review of the former, and original, rental manager Timm Armour's service, retirement and current health condition. There's a "Celebration of Life" gathering for Timm on Sunday, May 17 at Wil-o-Way Grant. The office would like to honor Timm with a plaque that will hang at both Wil-O-Way facilities. A draft plaque design was shared with the commissioners. The commission will share in the honoring.

ITEM VIII COMMISSION DISCUSSIONS

Mr. Bonk indicated that summer camp is full, the sailing reservations are coming in well, the ADA event at the Brewers game has Easter Seals selling single tickets to the game, the summer programming book is out, and McTab is working well.

Chair Falk-Palec indicated that we have an opening on the commission and an interested and qualified candidate in Ms. Perkins. Her information was included with the commission's packet. Chair Falk-Palec moved to nominate Ms. Perkins for the open seat on the Milwaukee County Commission for Persons with Disabilities. Seconded by Commissioner Walz-Chojnacki. Following no further discussion, ACTION: the motion passed with a unanimous vote. Chair Falk-Palec directed the office to forward Ms. Perkins' information to the County Executive for his consideration and action.

ITEM IX OTHER MATTERS BY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner McGrath indicated that ABLE recently held Braille Games as part of their 50th Anniversary. An example of a Braille baseball field was passed around to commissioners.

ITEM X OTHER MATTERS BY THE PUBLIC

ITEM XI ADJOURN

Chair Falk-Palec adjourned the meeting at 2:07pm. The next meeting of the Commission will be Monday, June 8, 2015 at 1:00pm at St. John's Properties (1800 N. Prospect Ave, Milwaukee).

Submitted by: Mike Bonk and Tim Ochnikowski, Staff to the Commission